(c) As per the information furnished by M/s. Pepsi Foods (P) Ltd., it has entered into a leasing arrangement for the manufacture of the above products. Under the lease terms Pepsi Foods procures the raw materials, finances the working capital of the leased unit, supervises quality control and packaging development and the end product is branded under the company's own brand name.

Corruption Charges against IAS and other High Officials

1704. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that increasing number of IAS and comparable categories of officers at various levels are being charged with committing irregularities and holding assets more than their incomes; what is the number of such officers investigated, charged, apprehended, suspended, discharged and dismissed during last three years; and

(b) what are the reasons for the decline in the standard of High level officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS ("SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Payment of Commission to NIC for contracts

1705. KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that contracts between KOBE STEEL LTD. (KSL) Japan, and Gujarat State Fertilizers Company Limited (GSPC) for the supply of screw type Amonia Gas Compressor set in the year 1987, and between KSL Japan, and Saurashtra Chemicals for the supply of SRM oil free compressor set in the year 1986 have materialized: if so, what are the details thereof

(b) whether it is also a fact that KSL, Japan, used Nissho Iwai Corporation (NIC), a Japanese commercial company in India, as an agent in the above mentioned contracts; if so, how much commission was paid to NIC; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that NIC (Nissho Iwai Corporation) further used Indian sub-agents in these contracts and paid commissions to them; if so, who were these sub-agents and what services were provided by them to NIC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) In March 1987, M/s. Gujarat State Fertilizers Company Ltd. (GSFC) purchased two screw tyPe ammonia compressors from M|s Kobe Steel Ltd. (KSL), Japan, based on techno-commercial suitability and on competitive bidding. Saurashtra Chemicals purchased a screw compressor from Kobe Steel, which was commissioned in 1988.

Neither GSFC nor Saurashtra Chemicals paid any commission on the purchase; they have no knowledge about any commission having been paid to Nissho Jvai Corporation or its sub-agents.

Avenues of promotions to Stenographers cadre

1706. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased .o state:

(a) what are the revised and pre-revised scales Of pay and channels of promotions available to Senior Stenographers and above in Central Secretariat|Government Services as per Central Civil Services Rules, 1986 *etc.:* and

(b) what is the minimum required length of services, level of educational qualifications etc. prescribed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) *A,* statement giving the information is attache herewith.